

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 QUITO 09464 301843Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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R 301730Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8463

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

S E C R E T QUITO 9464

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

GUAYAQUIL FOR CONSUL GENERAL AND KELLER ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS EFIS PFOR EC

SUBJECT: EFFORTS TO AVOID PROBLEMS DURING COMING TUNA FISHING

SEASON: TWO FINAL THINGS

REF: A. QUITO 9438 B. QUITO 9349

1. I TELEPHONED SUBSECRETARY AYALA NOON DECEMBER 24 TO TELL HIM THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS THAT DAY NOTIFYING CONGRESSMAN WILSON, THE INDUSTRY, AND THE SAN DIEGO PRESS OF THE ECUADOREAN ACTION IN ELIMINATING THE 600 NRT LIMIT. AYALA WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE NEWS OF OUR PROMPT ACTION, AND ASKED THAT I SPECIFICALLY ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE ECUADOREAN ACTION WAS ANOTHER "GESTURE OF FRIENDSHIP".

2. ON DECEMBER 29 POLCOUNS CORR OFFICIALLY INFORMED FONOFF AMB. BUSTAMANTE OF THE ACTIONS WE HAD TAKEN VIS-A-VIS SAN DIEGO, THUS COMPLYING WITH ONE OF THE COMMITMENTS WE MADE ON OCTOBER 14.

3. THE GOE AND THE USG HAVE NOW BOTH TAKEN MEASURES TO AVOID PROBLEMS DURING THE CURRENT TUNA FISHING SEASON. THE GOE'S REMOVAL OF THE 600 NRT LIMITATION VIA A MINISTERIAL

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DECREE SIGNED AND EFFECTIVE ON DECEMBER 22 WAS THE LATEST,

AND MOST ESSENTIAL, GOE ACTION. OUR PROMPT CARRYING OUT OF OUR COMMITMENT TO NOTIFY THE INDUSTRY OF CHANGES IN THE GOE'S REGULATIONS WAS THE USG'S COUNTERPART ACTION.

4. THERE ARE NOW TWO FINAL STEPS I THINK WE OUGHT TO TAKE. FIRST, IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE ECUADOREAN NAVY'S DISPOSITION TO ENFORCE TOLERANTLY THE LAWS ON FISHING IN ECUADOREAN CLAIMED WATERS, I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TELL THE GOE OF FURTHER USG EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS. SECOND, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, AND AN APPROPRIATE DIRECTrecognition OF THE ECUADOREAN ACTION, IF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS COULD TELEPHONE AMBASSADOR CARDENAS SIMPLY TO EXPRESS THE USG'S SATISFACTION WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE 600 NRT LIMIT AND TO CHARACTERIZE IT AS A "HELPFUL AND FRIENDLY" ACT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT A. TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS TO ENCOURAGE AMERICAN FISHING INDUSTRY TO CONSIDER MORE SERIOUSLY ASSOCIATION WITH ECUADOREAN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE COMPANIES AND ADVISE THE EMBASSY OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN; AND B. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS TELEPHONE AMBASSADOR CARDENAS.

BREWSTER

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NNN

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